

# **GOVERNMENT LAWYERS –GUARDIANS OF THE RULE OF LAW**

PRESENTED BY:

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# Government Lawyers In Kenya

1. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
2. THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS
3. THE SOLICITOR GENERAL
4. DEPUTY SOLICITORS GENERAL AND OTHER STATE COUNSEL
5. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS AND OTHER PROSECUTION COUNSEL
6. OTHER GOVERNMENT LAWYERS



# QUALITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT LAWYER

QUALITY	INGREDIENTS
Good Legal Grounding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Legal Training – Law degree</li><li>• Continuous Professional Development</li></ul>
Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Professional ethics</li><li>• Honesty</li><li>• Confidentiality and discretion</li></ul>
Public Servant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fidelity to the Constitution and the rule of law</li><li>• Commitment to public good</li><li>• Service to the country</li></ul>
Analytical Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deep thinking</li><li>• Research skills</li><li>• Problem solving skills</li></ul>
Communication Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good writing skills</li><li>• Articulate</li><li>• Confident</li></ul>

# QUALITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT LAWYER (CONTD.)

QUALITY	INGREDIENTS
Administrative Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understanding the link between policy and the law</li><li>• Knowledge of public administration and government procedures</li><li>• Navigating bureaucracy</li></ul>
Adaptability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flexibility – adapting to legal, policy and political changes.</li><li>• Innovation</li></ul>
Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Able to withstand pressure</li><li>• Patience and persistence</li></ul>
Political Savvy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Political neutrality</li><li>• Diplomacy</li></ul>
Teamwork and Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collaboration</li><li>• Mentorship and Coaching</li></ul>

# CHALLENGES OF BEING A GOVERNMENT LAWYER

1. POLITICAL PRESSURE
2. MAINTAINING INDEPENDENCE
3. RAPID POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGES
4. HIGH VISIBILITY AND SCRUTINY
5. ETHICAL DILEMMAS
6. RESOURCE LIMITATIONS
7. DEALING WITH POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS
8. CONFIDENTIALITY AND TRANSPARENCY



# MITIGATION STRATEGIES

1. STRONG ETHICAL TRAINING
2. DOCUMENTING LEGAL ADVISORIES AND OPINIONS
3. BUILDING NETWORKS
4. CAPACITY BUILDING OF POLITICIANS ON THE LAW
5. MENTORSHIP AND PEER SUPPORT

THANK YOU